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U.S. Department of the Interior

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## Steamtown National Historic Site News Release

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For Immediate Release

### Steamtown Schedule Features Trip to Carbondale's "Summer Celebration"!


SCRANTON, PA – Continuing the Heritage Valley Station Stops Program that began several years ago, Steamtown National Historic Site will run a diesel-powered excursion to the City of Carbondale, PA, on Saturday, June 17. While there, visitors can enjoy the "Summer Celebration" Festival at the city's downtown Memorial Park. Carbondale, known as the Pioneer City, was once a hub of railroading and anthracite coal mining. The city hopes to make this train's arrival a keystone event to other activities being planned for this year.

The train leaves from Steamtown's boarding platform in Scranton at 9:30 a.m., with arrival in Carbondale at approximately 11:00 a.m. Upon arrival, the Carbondale Area High School band will meet the train's arrival at Pioneer City Station, and the Carbondale Chamber of Commerce will roll out the "red carpet" for travelers! Balloons along the streets will lead to the main event area of the Summer Festival at Park Place, where kids can play games and enjoy some of their favorite foods. Jo-Jo the Clown, famous for her balloon animals, will dazzle all with her talents. Stores in town will be open, along with street vendors. Several local churches will be offering their homemade goods - everything from free snow cones to summer picnic-fare such as hot dogs, hamburgers and homemade Welsh cookies.

The festival is envisioned to become an annual arts festival for this city of just under 10,000 residents. Planners expect more than 250 individual art pieces to be displayed during the festival, with work by Crow's Design to be featured at Carbondale's City Hall. Pottery, antiques, dried flower arrangements, jewelry and various other types of crafts will be featured by local and regional craftsmen and businesses. Additionally, Dr. Robert Powell will conduct a tour of the city's historic churches. The tour will depart from the train station shortly after the train's arrival. Dr. Powell notes that each house of worship on the tour has some unique trait to offer visitors.

Children will also have a variety of activities to choose from during this family-friendly event! Dawson's Gymnastics will have a performance exhibition, while food samples, games and even pony rides will add to the local variety for the day. As an added bonus, young girls can enjoy the royal treatment as Jill's Beauty Shop will offer to pamper them with a "day of beauty".

The train is scheduled to depart the Pioneer City Station in Carbondale at 1:45 p.m. to ensure a return to Scranton at 3:30 p.m. Ticket prices are \$21.00 for adults 17 to 61, \$19.00 for those aged 62 and older, with children between age 6 and 16 costing \$10.00. Children under 6 require a ticket at no charge. Steamtown's Entrance Fee is included in the fares. Reservations can be made by calling 570-340-5204.



The National Park Service works with its partner, the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority, in highlighting the region's rich and diverse ethnic heritage and anthracite culture. By using the historic rail lines of the region, the train lends access to celebrations in the communities along the route. Steamtown regularly attracts visitors from all 50 states, and 40 nations of the world. These people are drawn to Scranton by the locomotives, and often fall in love with the rich heritage of the region.

Located in Scranton, Pennsylvania, Steamtown is open daily from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Park admission for adults aged 17 and older remains at \$6.00. From I-81, follow exit 185 (Central Scranton Expressway); then, follow the signs to the main entrance at Lackawanna and Cliff Avenues.

Additional details regarding interpretive and educational programs and activities may be obtained by calling (570) 340-5200 or toll free (888) 693-9391, or by visiting the Steamtown web site at [www.nps.gov/stea](http://www.nps.gov/stea).

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